

Prentiss County, Mississippi, She not only supported her husband in his role as the long serving supervisor of the fourth district of Prentiss County, she also supported her son-in-law in that same role. Edna herself later became the supervisor of the fourth District of Prentiss County and is the only woman to ever hold the position. Today, she and her family continue their tradition of service with her daughter, Judy, serving as mayor of the Town of Marietta. Edna worked hard for many years making an honest living at the town's only factory. A member of the Marietta Church of Christ for her whole life, she is one of the longest serving members of the congregation. I am proud to honor her on this milestone birthday and wish her many more. I thank her for her wisdom and humor. Edna has been a lifelong friend to me and my family and I ask my colleagues to join me today in celebrating her on this occasion.

IN HONOR OF NATIONAL LATINO  
AIDS AWARENESS DAY

**HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Saturday, September 27, 2008*

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the sixth annual National Latino AIDS Awareness Day which will be observed on October 15, 2008.

National Latino AIDS Awareness Day is a call to action for all Latinos to protect their lives and the lives of those they love by getting tested and learning about HIV.

In my district in Orange County, CA, over half of all new HIV infections take place among Latinos. Nationwide, Latinos continue to be affected by HIV at a disproportionately high rate, representing over 20 percent of HIV/AIDS cases.

The AIDS Services Foundation of Orange County is a critical resource that works to prevent the spread of HIV and improve the lives of men, women, and children affected by HIV/AIDS. This year, they have arranged for rapid HIV testing to be available at the Community Health Fair taking place in downtown Santa Ana, in my district, as a part of Binational Health Week in October 2008.

In addition, the AIDS Services Foundation of Orange County offers invaluable services to our community by providing food, transportation, housing, emergency financial assistance, kids and family programs, counseling, education, and prevention services.

We all must work together to reduce the incidence of HIV/AIDS in our families, communities, cities, States, Nation, and around the globe. To do this we must not let differences in language and culture be a barrier to providing access to preventative measures, healthcare, and support services.

In honor of National Latino AIDS Day, I urge my colleagues in Congress and all Americans to renew our commitment to the fight to stop the spread of HIV and AIDS.

TRIBUTE TO VICTIMS OF PLANE  
CRASH

**HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Saturday, September 27, 2008*

Mr. ORTIZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to express my deepest condolences to the families of IBWC U.S. Commissioner Carlos Marin, IWBC Mexican Commissioner Arturo Herrera, Executive Director of the Rio Grande Council of Governments Jake Brisbin, Jr., and pilot Matthew Peter Juneau. These four men were tragically killed in a plane crash.

I had the privilege of working with Commissioners Marin and Herrera on numerous issues affecting south Texas. They were strong advocates of continued cooperation between the United States and Mexico. Their service to the IBWC was matched by their dedication to improving the quality of life between the two nations.

I will keep the families in my thoughts and prayers.

TRIBUTE TO PAT O'BRIEN, GEN-  
ERAL MANAGER OF THE EAST  
BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT

**HON. GEORGE MILLER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Saturday, September 27, 2008*

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to join with my colleagues ELLEN TAUSCHER, BARBARA LEE, PETE STARK, and JERRY MCNERNEY in honoring Pat O'Brien for his many accomplishments and contributions to the East Bay Regional Park District, a world-class system of parks and trails throughout Alameda and Contra Costa Counties in the San Francisco Bay Area.

Pat O'Brien has provided remarkable leadership as the general manager of the East Bay Regional Park District, and our congressional districts have been greatly enhanced by his two decades of service. On the 20th anniversary of his leadership there, it is our great privilege to pay tribute to his work in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

His service to public parks and recreation in California began at the Southgate Recreation and Park District in the Sacramento area. Due to his innovative ideas and pioneering work at Southgate, he was hired as the East Bay Regional Park District's general manager. Over the next 20 years, Pat has accomplished more than many could in a lifetime of service.

Under his leadership, the park district has acquired over 32,000 acres of new parklands, and has added 17 parks and more than 100 miles of regional trails. The East Bay Regional Park District today includes 98,000 acres and 65 parks, a remarkable achievement in protecting and providing open space access to the citizens of one of the densely developed regions of the country. And while expanding to ensure that all of our communities are served, Pat O'Brien and the East Bay Regional Park District have built strong relationships throughout the region so that their important projects and initiatives have widespread support.

The East Bay Regional Park District during Pat O'Brien's tenure has been a wise steward

not only over the parks, trails, and natural and cultural resources of the East Bay Area, but of the taxpayers' money as well. The Park District has brought in more than \$75 million in matching funds, and they have worked through ballot measures and assessment districts to provide stable funding for their good work.

Pat O'Brien's public service is an example to us all, and we are lucky to have his vision and his commitment in the East Bay. We have all benefited by his leadership, and on behalf of all of our constituents, it is an honor to recognize Pat O'Brien on the occasion of his 20th anniversary as general manager of the East Bay Regional Park District.

HONORING THE 80TH BIRTHDAY OF  
PAUL GUERRERO

**HON. ZOE LOFGREN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Saturday, September 27, 2008*

Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize and congratulate Paul Guerrero on his 80th birthday. Mr. Guerrero is a long-time advocate for minority small business concerns and was named San Joaquin County Hispanic Chamber of Commerce's Advocate of the Year in 2006. Prior to moving to the Central Valley, Mr. Guerrero and his family lived in Santa Clara County, and I worked closely with him to ensure that minority and women contractors had a fair opportunity to bid on government contracts. Mr. Guerrero serves on the Board of Directors for the California Small Business Association and is the President and CEO of the California Small Business Entrepreneurs, Inc. Mr. Guerrero is a strong leader of the small business community, and I am honored to have him as a friend.

On behalf of Mr. Guerrero's family and friends, I would like to congratulate him on this milestone birthday and wish him many more to come.

HONORING JAMES "JIMMY" C.  
PHARR

**HON. TRAVIS W. CHILDERS**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Saturday, September 27, 2008*

Mr. CHILDERS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor James "Jimmy" C. Pharr on his 74th birthday. Jimmy has a long record as a leader in the Marietta, Prentiss County, Mississippi community. He served for years as an alderman and mayor of Marietta and the community has grown under his leadership. He was also one of the founding members of the Prentiss County Development Association, an entity that continues to be the cornerstone for economic growth in Prentiss County. Jimmy continues to support Marietta's schools, churches, and civic organizations and is the owner of local sawmills, employing hard-working people in the town. At an age when many others choose to retire, he goes to work at the sawmill every day. I ask my colleagues to please join me in recognizing James "Jimmy" C. Pharr, for whom I have great respect, for his life of service to the town of